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Agenda item 2
Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

Measures taken to implement Human Rights Council resolution 9/8 and obstacles to its implementation, including recommendations for further improving the effectiveness of, harmonizing and reforming the treaty body system

Report of the Secretary-General

1. In its resolution 9/8, the Human Rights Council requested the Secretary-General to report annually to the Council on measures taken to implement the resolution and on obstacles to its implementation, including recommendations for further improving the effectiveness of, harmonizing and reforming the treaty body system. The present report is submitted pursuant to that request.

2. In its resolution 68/268, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly, on a biennial basis, a comprehensive report on the status of the human rights treaty body system and the progress achieved by the human rights treaty bodies in realizing greater efficiency and effectiveness in their work, including the number of reports submitted and reviewed by the committees, the visits undertaken and the individual communications received and reviewed, where applicable, the state of the backlog, capacity-building efforts and results achieved, as well as information on the situation in terms of ratifications, increased reporting and the allocation of meeting time and proposals on measures, including on the basis of information and observations from Member States, to enhance the engagement of all States parties in the dialogue with the treaty bodies. The report of the Secretary-General on the status of the human rights treaty body system was submitted to the Assembly at its seventy-third session (A/73/309).[1] A note verbale soliciting information and observations from Member States was dispatched on 4 December 2017 and posted on the website of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). The responses that were received are posted on the same website.[2]

[1] The supplementary information (annexes) discussed in the report of the Secretary-General is available at www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRTD/Pages/2ndBiennialReportbySG.aspx.

[2] See www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRTD/Pages/2ndBiennialReportbySG.aspx.

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3. Comprehensive information on the topics raised in Human Rights Council resolution 9/8 is available on the following websites:

- Ratification status by country or treaty:

  http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExternal/Treaty.aspx

- Status-of-ratification maps:

  http://indicators.ohchr.org

- Country-specific reporting status:

  http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExternal/Countries.aspx

- Timely and late reporting and non-reporting by States parties:

  http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExternal/LateReporting.aspx

- Calendar of country reviews by treaty body:

  http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExternal/MasterCalendar.aspx

- Common core documents:

  http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExternal/CoreDocuments.aspx

- Treaty body database (search engine for treaty body documentation):

  http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/TBSearch.aspx

- Universal Human Rights Index (search engine for recommendations made by human rights mechanisms):

  http://uhri.ohchr.org

- Jurisprudence database:

  http://juris.ohchr.org

4. The following material also contains information on the issues raised in Human Rights Council resolution 9/8:

- Compliance by States parties with their reporting obligations to human rights treaty bodies (HRI/MC/2018/2)

- Report of the Chairs of the human rights treaty bodies on their 30th meeting (A/73/140)

- Report of the Secretary-General on the promotion of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of the human rights treaty bodies (A/72/284)

- OHCHR training package on reporting to the United Nations human rights treaty bodies

  www.ohchr.org/EN/PublicationsResources/Pages/TrainingPackage.aspx

5. Reference is also made to relevant information included in the session, annual and biennial reports of the treaty bodies.

- Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

  Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 18 (A/73/18)

- Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

  Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2018, Supplement No. 2 (E/2018/22-E/C.12/2017/3)

- Human Rights Committee

  Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 40 (A/73/40)

- Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

  Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/73/38)

- Committee against Torture

  Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 44 (A/73/44)

- Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

  CAT/C/63/4

- Committee on the Rights of the Child

  Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 41 (A/73/41)

- Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

  Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 48 (A/73/48)

- Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

  Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 55 (A/72/55)

- Committee on Enforced Disappearances

  Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 56 (A/73/56)